

**TUMWATER CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
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**CONVENE:** 7:10 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Pete Kmet, and Councilmembers Joan Cathey, Eileen Swarthout, Ed Hildreth, Nicole Hill, Debbie Sullivan, Neil McClanahan, and Tom Oliva.

Staff: City Administrator John Doan, Assistant City Administrator Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Attorney Karen Kirkpatrick, Finance Director Ursula Euler, Public Works Director Jay Eaton, Chief John Stines, Fire Chief Scott LaVielle, and Recording Secretary Tom Gow.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** There were no changes to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** a. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting, January 6, 2015  
b. Payment of Vouchers

**MOTION:** **Councilmember Hildreth moved, seconded by Councilmember Hill, to approve the consent calendar as published. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor Kmet reviewed the items approved on the consent calendar.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** No report.  
*Ed Hildreth*

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT:** The committee reviewed the draft amendment to the County-Wide Planning Policies incorporating Sustainable Thurston policies and other changes to update the policies. Mayor Kmet submitted some suggested changes to the proposed amendments, which the committee supported. The proposed changes will be included within the draft document. The Urban Growth Management Subcommittee is meeting on Friday, January 23, to consider the draft County-Wide Planning Policies for adoption and forwarding to the Thurston County Board of Commissioners.  
*Joan Cathey*

The committee received an update on the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Members discussed several elements of the plan pertaining to park impact fees and recommended changes to include in the update. The last update to the plan was in 2007. Suggestions were offered on different elements of the proposed community survey to include requesting specific

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information on parks and open space questions. Members requested a copy of the current Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to track proposed changes.

Members discussed the status of the Pioneer Cemetery planned improvements and a potential funding partnership with an abutting property owner.

Several future agenda items included a review of living wage jobs of contractor employees and a review of the City's non-discrimination policy and the county's memorandum of understanding for bee pollination protection and insecticides. The next meeting is on February 3.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**  
*Neil McClanahan*

No report.

**BUDGET AND  
FINANCE:**  
*Pete Kmet*

No report.

**MAYOR/CITY  
ADMINISTRATOR'S  
REPORT:**

Mayor Kmet reported on several state of the City updates he provided during several chamber meetings.

**COUNCILMEMBER  
REPORTS:**

*Joan Cathey:*

Attended the retirement gala of Pizza Klatch Board President Lyn Grotzky. Pizza Klatch is an organization developed around serving pizza at lunch time on high school campuses primarily for gay and lesbian high school students to afford a safe place to share concerns. The lunch-time meetings became a safe place for students who feel bullied or who feel different. The event has developed, expanded, has saved lives, and has created a community where many students are more academically and socially involved. Two years ago, the City afforded human services funding to the organization to help launch the program.

Attended the annual banquet honoring Martin Luther King Jr. on January 17 with Councilmember Oliva at South Puget Sound Community College. The guest speaker was a member of the "Littlerock 9." He was one of the nine students escorted into Central High School in Littlerock Arkansas by the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division during the Civil Rights Movement. This year, the banquet was the most successful Martin Luther King Jr. celebration in Thurston County's history.

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***Eileen Swarthout:***

Attended the Tumwater United for Families (TUFF) meeting at The River's Edge Restaurant. Representatives from TOGETHER! also attended. Recreation Manager Todd Anderson provided an overview of TUFF and the successful fundraiser – *Stuff the Bus*. The fundraiser raised sufficient funds for the scholarship program this year. Manager Anderson is increasing efforts to attract more participation by middle school students to attend activity nights at the school. Volunteer Coordinator Monica Langford shared information on Tumwater's Neighborhood Grant program.

The Law and Justice Committee completed its Lean process. A Criminal Justice 101 class will be held for newly elected policymakers.

***Ed Hildreth:***

Councilmember Hildreth reported on the results of ride-along with Police Officer Tim Eikum. During the ride-along, the officer responded to one burglary, one domestic violence incident, one suspicious person on premises, and conducted three traffic stops. Each incident required the preparation of a report, which is time intensive. The levy lid passed by citizens has had a positive impact on the community and will be more impactful when the final police officer is hired.

Approximately 57% of the funding source for 911 is from sales tax. The TCOMM General Manager proposes approaching the Legislature with other 911 organizations to request an increase in the cap of the current 1/10<sup>th</sup> of one percent of sales tax TCOMM currently receives. The General Manager initiated the Board's strategic planning process.

Mayor Kmet encouraged Councilmembers and citizens to schedule a ride-along with the Police Department.

***Nicole Hill:***

The cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater at the invitation of the Thurston Public Utility District (PUD) initiated some meetings to discuss opportunities to enhance internet and Wi-Fi services in the metropolitan area. Several case studies were reviewed involving Gig Harbor's Wi-Fi service in the downtown district, as well as service provided by Port Angeles. With assistance from Tumwater staff and staff members from the Thurston Economic Development Council, the effort examined Mottman Industrial Park and identified existing fiber. Another discussion with the City of Olympia pertained to whether the provision of Wi-Fi in the Brewery District could attract investors or new businesses. Current efforts include working with NoaNet to study the costs of providing services in Mottman and identifying current gaps in technology infrastructure. The three cities have considered several projects and have been clear with the PUD that the

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cities are interested in partnering but that it's unlikely any of the cities have the capacity to pursue the projects.

***Debbie Sullivan:*** No report.

***Tom Oliva:*** The turnout at the Martin Luther King Jr., annual banquet on January 17 was very impressive. The U.S. Army escorted Mr. Ernest Green, one of the nine students, into the banquet.

The Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) received a presentation on Thurston Thrives from Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Director Don Sloma. The 18-month effort has developed a number of strategy issues and establishment of a coordinating committee to move the process forward and involve local jurisdictions. Members also received an update from the South Sound Military and Communities Partnership on future force reductions of up to 11,000 soldiers at Joint Base Lewis McChord and the economic impact of the base to local communities, which represents 2% of the state's gross domestic product. The Army scheduled a "listening meeting" on Wednesday, January 21 to receive feedback from community members on the impacts a reduction in force would have on each community.

The LOTT Clean Water Alliance Board of Directors received a presentation on the Total Maximum Daily Load Study of Budd Bay Inlet and the Deschutes River/Capitol Lake. A draft report was released. Dissolved oxygen levels are insufficient in Budd Bay. The report speaks to factors creating the condition, as well as modeling and what changes could help increase the amount of dissolved oxygen.

The LOTT Board received a briefing on the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment should sea level rise by two feet over the next 50 years. LOTT is working with the City of Olympia on ways to mitigate impacts to the wastewater treatment plant through relocation of equipment to a higher level during routine replacement of equipment.

The LOTT Board scheduled the date for the follow up on the urban septic assessment for a Summit 2 Forum on Wednesday, April 29. The meeting will share information on the status of the septic situation and potential solutions. TCTV will broadcast the summit.

***Neil McClanahan:*** The Thurston County Housing Task Force is continuing to work on the homeless count planned on January 22.

The United States Army Association's next meeting is at the end of the month.

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The Alliance for Healthy South Sound received briefings from the Squaxin Island Tribe on some of its strategic projects for restoration of areas previously diked or farmed. Members received an update on the progress of efforts by the Council, which is comprised of 12 other counties within the Puget Sound area. The Squaxin Island Tribe is working on a plan to remove the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge and restore Capitol Lake to an estuary system. Councilmember McClanahan recommended scheduling a future worksession on the status of Capitol Lake and restoration of the estuary by the Squaxin Island Tribe. Members also discussed septic systems. Participating counties discussed developing a list identifying all septic systems in each county and each city and working on draft legislative language to allocate \$30 per septic system for education, a loan fund, and for support and outreach.

Thurston County's representative on the Thurston County HOME Consortium is Commissioner Cathy Wolfe. The City of Yelm also appointed a new member on the consortium. The consortium accepted an additional \$345,000 from the Thurston County Commission for rapid rehousing and other programs.

***Pete Kmet:***

The Transportation Policy Board is creating a position on the Board representing state government. The Board is currently recruiting for a Business Representative position. Interested individuals should contact TRPC and submit an application for consideration.

**ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Kmet and adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.**

Prepared by Valerie L. Gow, Recording Secretary/President  
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